Amendments to the specification:

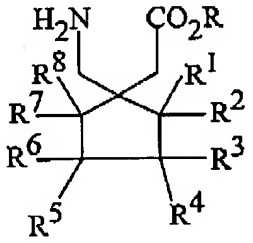
Amendments to the specification by a replacement paragraph are indicated by underlining language to be inserted, and by striking out language to be deleted

On page 3, lines 20-23, please replace the entire paragraph with the following paragraph:

~~Figure 3~~ Figures 3A and 3B are graphs showing the dose-dependent inhibitory effects of gabapentin (A) and pregabalin (B) on NK1 mediated Elk-1 transcription. Relative light units (Y axis) indicate luciferase activity in the presence of increasing concentrations of gabapentin or pregabalin (X axis).

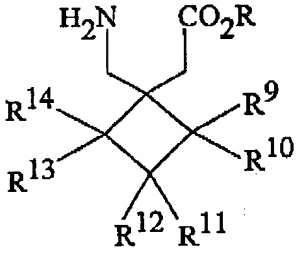
On page 11, at line 12, between the first and second paragraph, please insert the following new paragraph:

WO 9921824, is now issued as US Patent NO. 6, 635, 673. Both WO 9921824, and US Patent NO. 6, 635, 673 disclose, in the first paragraph under DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION, that "[t]he compounds of the instant invention and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts are as defined by formulas 1 and 1A



1

and



1A

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein:

R is hydrogen or a lower alkyl;

R^1 to R^{14} are each independently selected from hydrogen, straight or branched alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbons, phenyl, benzyl, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, hydroxy, hydroxymethyl, amino, aminomethyl, trifluoromethyl, $-CO_2H$, $-CO_2R^{15}$, $-CH_2CO_2H$, $-CH_2CO_2R^{15}$, $-OR^{15}$ wherein

R^{15} is a straight or branched alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbons, phenyl, or benzyl, and R^1 to R^8 are not simultaneously hydrogen". Both WO 9921824, and US Patent NO. 6, 635, 673 disclose that "[t]he compounds of the invention show good binding affinity to the $\alpha_2\delta$ subunit. Gabapentin (Neurontin®) is about 0.10 to 0.12 μM in this assay. Since the compounds of the instant invention also bind to the subunit, they are expected to exhibit pharmacologic properties comparable to gabapentin." See WO 9921824 , lines 5 to 9, page 18; and US Patent NO. 6, 635, 673, column 13, paragraph 2.